Mark Weitzman

Mark Weitzman is Director of Government Affairs and of the Task Force against Hate and Terrorism for the Simon Wiesenthal Center. He is also the Chief Representative of the Center to the United Nations in New York. Mr. Weitzman is a member of the official US delegation to the International Holocaust Remembrance Authority (IHRA) where he chairs the Committee on Antisemitism and Holocaust Denial. He spearheaded IHRA's recent adoption of the Working Definition of Antisemitism which is the first definition of antisemitism with any formal status, and also was the lead author of IHRA's Working Definition of Holocaust Denial and Distortion which was adopted as well by the 31 member countries of IHRA. He is a member of the advisory panel of Experts on Freedom of Religion or Belief of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), and co-chairs the Working Group on International Affairs of the Global Forum on Antisemitism. Currently Mr. Weitzman is also a participant in the program on Religion and Foreign Policy of the Council on Foreign Relations. He is also a board member and former Vice-President of the Association of Holocaust Organizations and was member of the advisory board of the Institute for the Study of Global Antisemitism and Policy at Yale University as well as a longtime member of the official Jewish-Catholic Dialogue Group of New York.

Mr. Weitzman is a winner of the 2007 National Jewish Book Award for best anthology for Antisemitism, the Generic Hatred: Essays in Memory of Simon Wiesenthal which he co-edited and contributed to and which has appeared in French, Spanish and Russian editions. His Jews and Judaism in the Political Theology of Radical Catholic Traditionalists was recently published by the Vidal Sassoon Center for the Study of Antisemitism at the Hebrew University as was the chapter "Antisemitism and the Radical Catholic Traditionalist Movement" in the volume Deciphering the "New" Antisemitism, edited by Alvin Rosenfeld (Indiana University). Other recent publications include the chapters "Magical Logic: Globalization, Conspiracy Theory and the Shoah", which appeared in the 2012 volume Holocaust Denial: the Politics of Perfidy, edited by Robert Wistrich (an earlier version was published by the Vidal Sassoon Center for the Study of Antisemitism at the Hebrew University in 2009) and "Antisemitism and Terrorism on the Electronic Highway" which appeared in the book Terrorism and the Internet: Threats — Target Groups — Deradicalisation Strategies (IOS Press for NATO, 2010). Mr. Weitzman also co-edited Strategies in Facing Antisemitism: An Educational Resource Guide, a joint publication of the Simon Wiesenthal Center and Yad Vashem which was published in 2009. A frequent commentator on issues related to antisemitism, extremism and tolerance, Mr. Weitzman has appeared on television (Charlie Rose, Rachel Maddow, Keith Olbermann and the History Channel) as well as in newspapers (The New York Times, Washington Post, Washington Times, Jerusalem Post, Times of Israel, The Jewish Week and The Forward).

Mr. Weitzman has testified in Congress, met with world leaders including UN Secretary-Generals Kofi Annan and Ban Ki-moon and been a featured speaker at three UN conferences on antisemitism and extremism. He was also one of the Jewish leaders to meet with Popes Benedict and Francis on their US visits.

Dismantling the Big Lie: the Protocols of the Elders of Zion, which he co-authored with Steven L. Jacobs, the first full refutation of the infamous Protocols, was published in 2003 and has been translated into Arabic and Japanese with a Turkish edition forthcoming. His chapter "Antisemitismus und Holocaust-Leugnung: permanente Elemente des globalen Rechtsextremismus - Antisemitism (Antisemitismand Holocaust Denial: Permanent Elements of Global Right-wing Extremism") was published in the volume Globalisierter Rechtsextremismus?: Die extremische Rechte in der Ara der Globalisierung (Globalized Right-wing Extremism: Right-wing Extremism in an Era of Globalization - 2006) and the chapter "The Transmigration of Antisemitism: Old Myths; New Realities", appeared in the volume Not Your Father's Antisemitism: the Hatred of Jews in the Early 21st Century, (2008). He also was a contributor to the Encyclopedia of Genocide and Crimes Against Humanity (2004) and has overseen the Wiesenthal Center's annual electronic report, Digital Hate and Terrorism (2000-2016). Other publications include editing and contributing to The New Lexicon of Hate (3rd edition, 2004) and the textbook The Holocaust: Historical Case Studies (1996). In 1987 he was on the board of advisors for the companion guide for the film Shoah.

He has been recognized for his work by the US Army, the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum and also served as the Historical Advisor to the Marvel Comics graphic novel "X-Men: Magneto Testament".